

TAB

THE FEDERAL SPOTLIGHT

WASHINGTON STAR
13 March 1962Broader Careerist Training
Urged for Assignment Mobility

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A more comprehensive training and promotion program for Government careerists to permit greater mobility and latitude in key Federal job assignments was advocated last night by Senator Jackson, Democrat of Washington.

Addressing the annual awards banquet of the National Civil Service League, Senator Jackson, chairman of the Senate

Envoy Frances Willis Only Women to Receive Award. Page C-2

ate Subcommittee on National Policy Machinery, said the Government should "do more to prepare career people for posts of high responsibility." The subcommittee has made an intensive study of the situation during the last few years.

He said that more civilian generalists should be trained to assume a variety of posts in Government as national security interests require.

Government civilian generalists should have integrated knowledge and understanding of military matters, modern weaponry and its capabilities, technological development, procurement, use of intelligence service, use and limitation of propaganda and political warfare, international relations and other knowledge relating to national security matters, Senator Jackson said.

"No one is being trained for such jobs in an organized way," he declared.

"For the most part, career officers are forced to focus their abilities and even their loyalties on the interests of particular bureaus or services. To get ahead, they may have to plan their careers in terms of the specialized concerns of one agency," the Senator said.

"In this respect our civilian career services have much to learn from the training and promotion system of the armed

forces which is designed to develop the general staff officer," Senator Jackson observed.

Senator Jackson said the challenge of the Communist world must be faced by more efficient Government.

"A century ago the failure of Government officials to do first-rate work may have meant some waste of taxpayers' money," he said. "But today the cost of similar failure may mean our national survival. The free world will not be kept free by the slovenly or halfhearted." He added that the caliber of the career service already is "very high," but that it could and should be higher.

Senator Jackson also called for higher salaries for career employees at the top of the civil service and for officials at the sub-cabinet level.

Senator Jackson also declared that there is too much over-staffing in Government. There are "too many people in it doing work that does not really need doing," he said. This not only is costly to Government but detracts from the important work that needs to be done, Senator Jackson said.

Top members of Congress and Government officials were among the more than 1,000 guests who attended the awards dinner at the Sheraton-Park Hotel.

This year's winners honored by the nonpartisan business-supported National Civil Service League were Frances Elizabeth Willis, Ambassador to Ceylon; Dr. Howard Andervont, National Career Institute; David Auld, District government; A. Ross Eckler, Census Bureau; William Godel, Defense; Dr. Wayne Grover, Archivist of the United States; Bertrand Harding, Internal Revenue Service; Philip Hughes, Budget Bureau; Leo Werts, Labor Department and Dr. Abe Silverstein, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

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BEST ROUTE—The Con-

troller General has ruled that Government employees driving their cars on out-of-town official business are entitled to full mileage reimbursement only if they take the most direct routes to their destinations.

The Controller General declared that the Government cannot pay full expenses for trips which involve indirect routes taken by employees for personal reasons such as visiting relatives, taking other passengers to their destinations, etc.

Assistant Controller General Frank Weitzel said Federal employees are expected to exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a "prudent person would exercise if traveling on personal business." He added that all travel should be performed over usually traveled routes and any extra expenses caused by using indirect routes must be borne by the traveler.

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EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION

—The Post Office Department soon is expected to make a decision regarding exclusive recognition of postal employee unions.

It's expected that the large postal employee unions will be given national exclusive recognition in regards to the particular type of employees they represent.

However, what's holding up the final issuance of orders is the situation involving postal clerks. The United Federation of Postal Clerks seeks exclusive recognition in the field of postal clerks, claiming that it represents the majority of postal clerks. However, the rival National Postal Union disputes this claim, declaring that the UFPC does not represent the majority.

NPU officials are threatening to take the case to the Federal courts if the Post Office Department gives national exclusive recognition to the UFPC.